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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

120596

~~INTELLIGENCE REPORT~~

COUNTRY Albania

DATE:

25X1A6a

INFO. 

SUBJECT Airfields at Tirana. Scutari, Vlone and Durazzo

DIST. 22 October 1947

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PAGES 2


ORIGIN 

SUPPLEMENT

APPENDIX: one sketch 

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1. Tirana Airfield: The Tirana airfield is about 1500 by 500 meters. It is located two kilometers WNW from the city. Its main installations are (letters refer to sketch attached):
- Hangers: Two or three part brick and part metal, in one of which there is a repair shop. In the hangers there are only three former Italian planes which are being repaired by substituting entire parts with other parts from planes that are no longer used.
  - Field offices and quarters for personnel: Presently the Military Air Corps Headquarters and the Civilian Air Corps headquarters are here.
  - Location of the radio transmission station, the only one of its kind in Albania; and also various meteorological instruments. In the same building are quartered different specialists. On the roof is the wind gauge.
  - At one time the customs office, but has now been turned over to the technical military and civilian Air Corps offices.
  - The runway is of cement, about one km long and 60 meters wide. It is in excellent condition, because it was repaired in 1946.
  - Smoothed off field used for parking planes before take-off or upon landing.
  - Concrete bomb shelters, partially underground, for about 100 people.
  - Main entrance, with about five or six side entrances. Every entrance has its guard.
  - Electric power (run by diesel) by the Italian Society S.E.S.A. It is very efficient and furnishes electricity to the offices as well as to all the various installations on the field. Electric energy is transported by means of subterranean cable.
  - In front of the main entrance to the end of the main building, to the east and west of the hangers, are other buildings in which the Germans set up a repair shop with excellent mechanical equipment. This shop which has kept the machines in perfect order, is now being used

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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for motor-car repairs and for repair for of automobile and plane motors.

- k. In the southwest corner of the field, in a little wooded area is piled up plane wreckage of all kinds. A group of specialized workers have been trying to salvage serviceable parts. There are about 80 wrecked planes.
- l. The field garrison is made up of a DIP company over and above the guards for the various entrances; guard houses are located along the perimeter of the field.
- m. Field defenses consist of five artillery guns of unknown caliber, planted as follows: one on the roof of the electrical shop, one on the ex-customs office roof-top, and another on the radio transmission office. The anti-aircraft defense is completed by about 30 Italian anti-aircraft machine guns of 20 mm. Of these, five are on the roof of the Headquarters building (b). Four on the radio transmission building (c), four on the ex-customs office building (d), and finally four on the power plant (i). The remaining are placed on concrete bases, protected by sandbag walls.
- n. The entire personnel used for the defense of the field comprises one army company.
- o. The field is surrounded in the north, east and south by barbed wire.
2. Scutari Airfield: Located about four kilometers NNE from the city, the field lies east of the Kiri river and is approximately 1.5 and 0.5 kilometers in width. It has two adjacent buildings, in which are located headquarters command with quarters, and the hangar. The airfield has a cement runway in perfect condition. It has neither a radio station nor arms for anti-aircraft defense. Its personnel does not exceed 150 men.
3. Vlone Airfield: The airfield is situated about 15 kilometers north from the city, along the highway that leads to Fier. It has a few buildings and a smooth dirt runway. This field was badly damaged during the war, so much so that it was necessary to rebuild it considerably. Today, practically all bomb damages have been repaired. The mainfield axis is in the NE direction.
4. Korce Airfield: On the field with about 100 military personnel, are located a large hangar, and a building for offices and quarters for personnel.
5. Durazzo Airfield: This is an emergency landing field, situated on level land, bordered on the west by the Durazzo-Porteze railroad, on the south by sports field, and on the east by the banks of the Durat (sic). It has no brick buildings, only a few wooden barracks. This field is very large and has fairly smooth surface. The field garrison is composed of about 20 military personnel.

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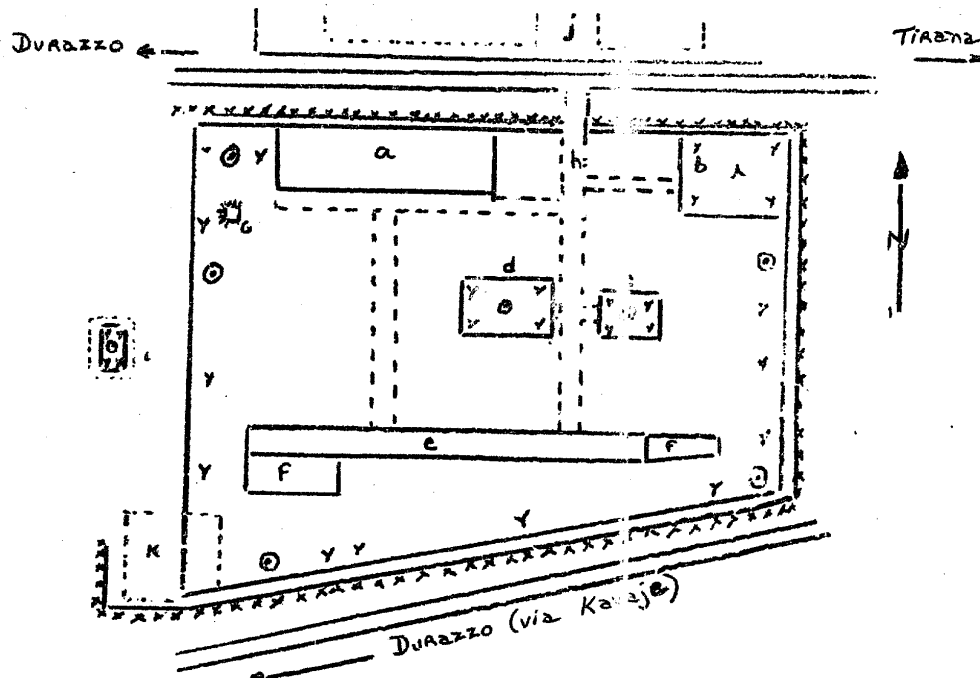
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Airfield at Tirana



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